Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 /119 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE: DPFOTENHAUER/NCLEDSKY;FPS

APPROVED BY EUR: WSTABLER

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P R 141920Z FEB 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 030288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB, UR, UK, FR, US

SUBJECT: RUDOLF HESS

REF: BONN 2171

1. DEPARTMENT QUESTIONS UTILITY OF FURTHER TRIPARTITE APPROACHES TO SOVIET ON BEHALF OF RUDOLF HESS. SOVIETS HAVE ALWAYS REJECTED PREVIOUS WESTERN REQUESTS TO FREE HESS, AND MOVING HIM NOW TO LESS CONFINING QUARTERS IS UNLIKELY TO WIN SOVIET SUPPORT OR IN THE END SAVE MUCH MONEY. HOSPITAL RELOCATION SCHEME WHICH UK BACKED IN 1966 WOULD HAVE REQUIRED LARGE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE WHICH WAS DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY THEN. IT WOULD BE EVEN HARDER TO JUSTIFY EIGHT YEARS LATER IN VIEW OF HESS' AGE.

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2. IF FRG CONTINUES PRESSURE FOR SOME ACTION, AND UK AND FRENCH WILLING TO SPEAK TO SOVIETS, WE WILL BE PREPARED PARTICIPATE IN TRIPARTITE APPROACH. EMBASSY BONN AND USBER SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, ENCOURAGE FURTHER WESTERN ACTION. KISSINGER

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Subject: RUDOLF HESS

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